

February 6 through February 12, 2012

Weekly Highlights (February 6 through February 12, 2012)

Task Order 0036, Analytical and Laboratory Support

TDF 01076 – Provide Sample Log-in and Other Ancillary Tasks in Support for the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site (Fast Turnaround Time Analyses), Assigned 1/31/12, Due 2/1/12 – 2/10/12 or as long as the Task Order is extended – ESAT was assigned the task of performing sample log-in, sample processing support, and ancillary tasks (e.g., glassware washing, reagent prep, etc.) to support the analytical tasks for this Superfund site. In addition, ESAT may be required to provide sample preparation support. ESAT will be notified if this support is needed. Activities relative to sample log-in (WO# 1202004) and glassware washing were performed under this TDF this week.

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Task Order 0036
Task 1 - Analytical and Laboratory Support - Site Specific

WO#	TDF / TO	Site / Request #	Samples / Matrix	Assigned	Due	Submitted	Accepted	Status
1201009	01055	non-responsive	8 Air, TO-15	1/24/12	P: 2/13/12 F: 2/17/12	P: 2/9/12 F: Pending		Eight samples were received 1/23/12. Sample analyses have been completed and the preparation of the final report is currently in progress.
1201010	01056		12 Air, TO-15	1/24/12	P: 2/13/12 F: 2/16/12	P: Pending F:		Twelve samples were received 1/24/12. Sample analyses are currently in progress.
1201012	01064		4 Air, TO-15	1/25/12	2/29/12	2/6/12	2/7/12	The final report was consolidated 2/7/12. Four samples were received 1/25/12.
1201017	01078		3 Air, TO-15	1/31/12	P: 2/21/12 F: 2/28/12	P: Pending F:		Three samples were received 1/31/12. Sample analyses are currently in progress.

P = Preliminary report, F = Final report

Non Responsive

Task Orders 0028, 0035 & 0036
Analytical and Laboratory Support – Non-Site Specific

Task	Description	Activity
2	Instrument Maintenance	See Task 8 below for comments relative to the new Dionex Ion Chromatograph instrument located in Room G103. All other instruments were fully functional.

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Task Orders 0028, 0035 & 0036
Analytical and Laboratory Support – Non-Site Specific

Task	Description	Activity	
3	Sample Custody	New Requests	non-responsive
		Canister Deliveries	
		ESAT Sample Receipt	No ESAT samples were received this week.
		EPA Sample Receipt	EPA Superfund samples were received by ESAT this week for Dimock Residential Groundwater (WO# 1202004).
		Report Consolidation	non-responsive
4	Glassware Cleaning and Lab Cleanliness	Both glassware washing units and Oven #2 were fully functional. Oven #1 has been taken out of service and ESC Facilities has been notified that this unit has failed to reach specified temperature. ESC Facilities performed diagnostics on the oven; however, they were unable to determine the cause of the malfunctions observed by ESAT. ESAT will continue to monitor the functionality of the oven for a currently undetermined period before the resumption of utilizing this unit for glassware cleaning activities.	
5	Reagents and Supplies	The weekly chemical inventory for w/e 2/5/12 was completed 2/7/12 and the report was submitted to the PO. The weekly chemical inventory for w/e 2/12/12 is scheduled to be completed 2/13/12 and the report will be submitted to the PO.	
6	Lab Safety	None	
7	Review SOPs and Guidance Documents	TDF 04096 / TO 0028, assigned 4/26/10, due 5/14/10 – This TDF specifies that ESAT shall review and provide comments / recommended changes of the draft revision (4/25/10) for SOP R3QA213, Distillation of Methylene Chloride Resulting from the Extraction of Aqueous Samples. The SOP with embedded comments and recommendations was submitted 5/14/10. ESAT is currently awaiting Agency feedback.	
8	New Capabilities/Method Development	TDF 01001 / TO 0028, assigned 1/3/11, due 1/4/11 by 10:00 am – ESAT was tasked to provide a brief written description stating ESAT’s current capability for performing low-level hexavalent chromium in water analysis based on ESAT’s recent study. ESAT shall include the lowest quantitation limits achieved successfully including any issues, concerns, problems, recommendations or note-worthy comments for performing these analyses. This final report was submitted 1/3/11. ESAT is currently awaiting Agency feedback.	
		TDF 03061, TO-15 Pilot Study – Draft/Verbal Technical Direction, Assigned 3/17/11, Various Interim Due Dates (Final Report Due 6/30/11) – As a result of the TO-15 Pilot Study Conference Call held 3/14/11, ESAT was assigned to complete the tasks listed below, which have been completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Prepare a set of test bottles (1 under vacuum and 1 without vacuum) and a micro vacuum gauge with one connector for field samplers to utilize / test sample collection procedures for the Air Pilot Study by the end of the week. Sample containers shall be shipped in a shipping case.Field Sampler will test on Friday and provide feedback / results of testing bottles.Check with Entech to determine how existing sampling line would connect to the bottles for field sampling.Prepare canisters (1 per location / sample station) and sample bottles (2 per station location / sample station). In addition, include a return shipping label/UPS air bill to be sent to the field samplers for sampling the first full week of April (4/4/11 thru 4/8/11) for the April sampling. Two stations were selected at the non-responsive or the air pilot study: WSINFA and WSCARBA. The analyses of air samples have been completed for the Summa canisters and amber bottles, received from non-responsive	

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Task Orders 0028, 0035 & 0036
Analytical and Laboratory Support – Non-Site Specific

Task	Description	Activity
		<p>non-responsive DAS# R33677. A report containing a review and comparison of the results obtained from these analyses was submitted 7/13/11. The report was returned to ESAT and we are currently awaiting a feedback form from the sampler. The return of the micro-vacuum gauge is also currently pending.</p> <p>TDF 10070, New Dionex Ion Chromatography (IC) Instrument Installation and Training, verbal direction issued 10/27/11, brief summary to be included in Weekly Report – ESAT was assigned the task of providing technical expertise and being present/available for the Dionex Ion Chromatography (IC) instrument installation and attending the Dionex training tentatively scheduled for November 8 and 9, 2011. ESAT may be required to provide information or answer questions relative to the operation of the IC instrumentation or the performance of IC parameters. Activities relative to the installation of the instrument were initiated 11/8/11; however, ESAT was informed by the Dionex representative that additional time (11/29-12/1/11 and beyond) was needed to complete the installation / training process. Following a visit by Dionex installation personnel completed 12/20/11, the anions component was partially operational; however, the hexavalent chromium module was non-functional. Final installation activities (including the installation of a new hexavalent chromium UV-detector) were completed w/e 1/22/12 and the instrument was declared fully functional. Although IC training was scheduled for January 24 – 25, 2012, ESAT was informed via an email from EPA WAM John Curry, dated January 20, 2012, that the IC training would be postponed because of a large and very important sampling event scheduled to occur during this period. John Curry contacted Thermo-Fisher's representatives to inform them of the postponement and ESAT will be notified once a new date can be scheduled.</p>
9	Quality Assurance Compliance and Documentation	<p>ESAT received the following documents for login this week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstration of Capability and Method Detection Limit studies (DOC-MDL-212), Method 200.8 Modified for DRC with O2, (J. Dorsey)• Demonstration of Capability and Method Detection Limit studies (DOC-MDL-211), Method 200.8 Modified for DRC with O2, (R. Costas)• Annual Verification of NQLs – 2012, (MDL:) SOP R3-QA131-080311, Mercury by Cetac Mercury Analyzer, (S. Greco)• Annual Verification of NQLs – 2012, (MDL:) SOP R3-QA104-032311, Phenols, (N. Fritsche)• SOP R3-QA401-033010, Multiple Tube Fermentation Technique for Total Coliform and Fecal Coliform Bacteria, (D. Russell)• SOP R3-QA219-022410, Continuous Liquid-Liquid Extraction (E. Graybill) <p>TDF 12064 – Prepare Listing of Cases/DASs & Sample Numbers for Disposal – Stored in Refrigerator as a Result of Litigation Holds, assigned 12/20/11, summary report due 1/20/12 – ESAT was given direction to complete the following tasks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ESAT is to determine and prepare a listing of the sites and associated sample numbers for cases/DASs that are being stored in the ESAT sample refrigerator located in Room J102 that may be ready for disposal depending on the status of the litigation holds for each site in question.• ESAT will submit copies of the report to EPA Laboratory Branch Chief Cynthia Caporale, EPA Records Manager Annette Lage, EPA WAMs Kevin Martin and John Curry, and EPA Technical Services Branch Chief Fred Foreman. <p>The summary report, submitted 1/18/12, was accepted 1/31/12.</p> <p>On 1/6/12, the ESAT PO gave ESAT verbal technical direction via an email to perform the annual EDD check for each method/matrix that they currently report. Activities relative to this task are currently in progress.</p>